

Joe Lombardo
Governor

Richard Whitley, MS
Director



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION
Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Dena Schmidt
Administrator

February 1, 2024

Obioma Officer, Executive Director
Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
7150 Pollock Drive
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Dear Ms. Officer:

Please find enclosed the annual report on the Hearing Aid Program pursuant to NRS 427A.610. This report is for calendar year 2023. If you have any questions about this report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dena Schmidt".

Dena Schmidt
Administrator

Enclosure

Cc: Richard Whitley, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Shannon Litz, Deputy Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Jeffrey Duncan, Agency Manager, Aging and Disability Services Division
Adrienne Navarro, Social Services Chief II, Aging and Disability Services Division
Jennifer Montoya, Social Services Program Specialist III, Aging and Disability Services Division

Hearing Aid Program Report
Annual Report Pursuant to NRS 427A.610
Calendar Year 2023

Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 427A.610 states that the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) shall develop and administer a program whereby any child who is less than 13 years of age whom the Division determines is hard of hearing may apply to obtain a hearing aid at no charge to the child if the child: (a) Resides in a home in which the household income is at or below 400 percent of the federally designated level signifying poverty; and (b) Does not have access to affordable insurance coverage for a hearing aid.

As identified in previous reporting in NRS 427A.610, any person/family with income below 400% federally designated level (FPL) qualifies for subsidized health insurance through the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange or qualifies for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) or Medicaid. Hearing aids are an essential health benefit through all insurance that is available through the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange, Medicaid, and CHIP and, therefore, any individual who would qualify for hearing aids under NRS 427A.610 already has access to affordable insurance for hearing aid coverage.

ADSD was unable to assist any consumers during calendar year 2023 and recommends that the provisions of NRS 427A.610 be evaluated to determine if it should be amended to meet the intent of the 2019 legislation (Senate Bill 203).